

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 02089

LIMDIS

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: NATO, CSCE
SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON BELGRADE MEETING

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1. ON FRINGES OF FEBRUARY 27 NAC CONSULTATION ON
EAST-WEST STUDY, HUNTINGTON AND HUNTER TALKED
PRIVATELY WITH ANDREANI ABOUT THE BELGRADE CSCE
MEETING.

2. ANDREANI SAID THAT THE BREZHNEV RESPONSE TO
GISCARD'S APPEAL CONTAINED NOTHING THAT HAD NOT
PREVIOUSLY BEEN REPORTED. IT WAS A BRIEF MESSAGE,
BASICALLY INDICATING THAT THE USSR COULD NOT ACCEPT
ANYTHING AT BELGRADE IN THE CLOSING DOCUMENT
DEALING WITH INTERFERENCE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS.
ANDREANI BELIEVES THAT THE WEST HAD BEEN MISTAKEN
IN PURSUING THE CONFERENCE PAST THE CHRISTMAS
BREAK -- THOUGH HE APPRECIATES THE PROBLEM OF DEALING
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WITH NNA INTERESTS IN DISCUSSING THEIR PROPOSALS.
THIS WAS A TACTICAL ERROR, IN THAT IT MAGNIFIED
WHAT THE WEST HAS BEEN UNABLE TO GET IN TERMS OF
NEW PROPOSALS AND A FINAL DOCUMENT. HE REGRETS
THAT PUBLIC OPINION IN THE WEST WILL SEE THE
BELGRADE MEETING AS A SETBACK FOR DETENTE, AND
THAT THIS COULD HAVE GREATER IMPLICATIONS THAN

HAVE SO FAR BEEN FORESEEN.

3. ANDREANI ALSO ASKED ABOUT PRESS REPORTS THAT
PRESIDENT CARTER HAD BEEN ASKED BY THE BUREAUCRACY
TO INTERVENE WITH OTHER LEADERS ON THE BELGRADE
CLOSING DOUCMENT, AND HAD REFUSED. HUNTINGTON
AND HUNTER REPLIED THAT, TO THE BEST OF THEIR
KNOWLEDGE, THIS WAS NOT TRUE. GLITMAN

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